
THE
COURT MISCELLANY:
Being a curious
COLLECTION
OF
AMOROUS POEMS.

[Price One Shilling.]



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COURT MISCELLANY:

Being a Curious

COLLECTION

OF

AMOROUS POEMS,

MADE ON

Persons, of both Sexes, of the first
Rank of Quality in *Great-Britain*.

In which is contain'd,

1. A Description of *the best in Christendom*. Inscribed to the P--- of W---, and Miss F---z---ms. 2. Dialogues between an old Maid of 75, and a young one of 18, on Love and Gallantry, Marriage and single Life, Dress and Behaviour, Plays and Musick, Peaury and Courtship. 3. Verses by a Lady in Praise of her *Own Estate*. 4. A Journey to Bristol, for the Recovery of Health. Inscribed to Miss V-n. 5. In Praise of Tea. Addressed to the Court Ladies, particularly the Maids of Honour to her Majesty. 6. The Apothecary's Daughter. A Tale. Inscribed to Captain B---ns, and a Royal Person. 7. The Favourite. Inscribed to two of the Maids of

Honour to the Queen. 8. The Unlucky Ramble; or the Royal Cully. 9. The constant Fair. A Ballad. Inscrib'd to Miss M-d-s. 10. On a Punch Bowl, belonging to a Court Sot. 11. On a Flea, leaping into a Lady's Bed at St. James's. 12. On the Charms of a young Lady of the first Rank. 13. An Epitaph on a Wife, by a Husband. 14. A new Ballad on an insulting inconsistent Woman. 15. Beauty in Masquerade. Inscribed to the C---fs of S---k. 16. An Italian Wit's Question, and an English Critick's Answer. 17. The Tale of Sulannah and the two Elders. 18. An Epitaph on a Taylor's Wife. 19. A Satyr on Eve. Addressed to all Prudes.

L O N D O N :

Printed for S. SLOW, in the *Strand*.

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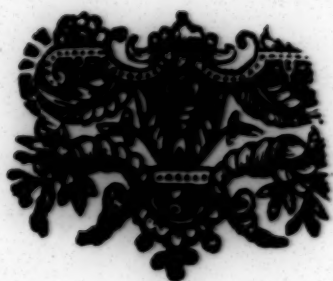


T H E
P R E F A C E.

I*T is the Method of some People to open a Book any where, and having read a few Lines, which perhaps may not please them, throw it by; therefore, if any one should stumble upon those three Things which have been inserted in the Works of the Earls of Rochester and Roscommon, it is to be hoped they will not cast their Censures by saying that all the Pieces contain'd in this Collection are old. The Three I mean are, Susannah and the two Elders; The Constant Fair; and the Verses on the Charms of a Lady of the first Rank; all of which have, 'tis true, been before printed; but then their being so very applicable to the Characters of the Persons to whom I have inscribed them, occasion'd my using them instead of any Productions of my own. As to all other the little Tales and Poems here collected for the Reader's Satisfaction, is, I am sure, now first printed*
from

The P R E F A C E.

from the Originals, and will, I am in great Hopes, give a general Content to those who shall purchase them. There are several, I apprehend, such as the Apothecary's Daughter; A Journey to Bristol; and the Favourite, which may be taken as too rash; but then the Truth they carry with them, will be a sufficient Excuse for their being reduced into Print.





A Description of The best in Christendom. Inscribed to the P--- of W---, and Miss F---zw---ms.

M Using one Day on This and That,
And thinking on I know not what,
A jolly Nymph of 'Phebus' Strain,
Attack'd me thus in merry Vein.

The rival Deities of old
A Shepherd chose, (as I am told)
To whom each Goddess made her Suit,
And he decided their Dispute.
No Deities your Aid implore,
But Nymphs in Number three Times four,
(Nymphs full as sprightly and as good,
As e'er were made of Flesh and Blood ;
Who now are sporting on the Plain,)
Have chose thee Umpire ; happy Swain !
Here, read these Words, and quickly tell
Thou, who in Wisdom doth excel ;

Relate, nor think me troublesome,
 What means the *best in Christendom* ?
 She smil'd, she blush'd, and with a Grace,
 Hung down her Head, and veild her Face.
 From various Things, said I, arise
 Variety of Qualities :
 This fires the Soul, and that the Blood,
 Mysterous some, some understood ;
 But, oh ! how wide my Task, and far is,
 From what was given to Shepherd *Paris*.
 Naked he view'd the heavenly Fair,
 And did not slip one single Hair ;
 So curious in Examination,
 No Part escap'd his Penetration :
 But since my Judgment is required,
 I'll speak, for now I am inspired :
 The Nymphs so sprightly, blith and gay,
 Shall change their Notes another Way :
 The *Best* must something be divine,
 And sure that Thing must needs be thine.
 If so, says she, (with swelling Veins,
 Then prithee take it for thy Pains.

A
 D I A L O G U E
 B E T W E E N
 L E O N O R A and A U R E L I A.

L E O N O R A.

HERE, Niece, take my Handkerchief, prithee now, if you can find nothing else to cover your Nakedness: If you knew what a fulsome Sight it was, I am sure you would not go so bare: I can't abide your naked Breasts heaving up and down; they make me sick to see them.

Aurelia. It is not clean, Aunt; besides, 'tis so hot I can't endure any thing about my Neck; I hate to be stifled up.

Leo. Hark ye, *Aurelia*, those little Pretences won't pass upon your Aunt; 'tis not the Heat of the Weather, 'tis the Heat of
 B your

your Blood, your Wantonness, and lascivious Thoughts; 'tis they that are the Cause of all your immoderate Behaviour. Do I ever go so? Or do you think I haven't Breasts as well as you?

Au. When I am as old as you, Aunt, perhaps I may do as you do. Tho' you are pleas'd to find Fault with my Behaviour, I don't know that ever I was guilty of any Immodesty in my Life: I don't invent the Fashions; but indeed I don't love to be pointed at for affecting Singularity. I dress myself as I see other young Gentlewomen do; my Stays are not cut lower than other People's.

Leo. Don't make so many Excuses, dear Child; what signifies the Fashion? What signifies your Stays? Yesterday it was as hot again as it is now; then all the while we were in the Garden, rather than to have your white Skin tann'd with the Sun, you could endure your Handkerchief, and your Mask both; then you was close muffled up, and I did not once hear you complain of being stifled.

Au. As long as I use not Art to make my Skin white, I hope it is no Sin to keep it from being Sun-burnt?

Leo.

Leo. Yes; and for what Reason do you keep it white? To raise up sinful Thoughts in the Men; if your Breasts were yellow, or freckled, you know, they would not be so inviting to the Fellows; but I declare it, were I a Man, I'd spit at them.

Au. Then, if you was a Man, Aunt, you would not be accounted a very civil one.

Leo. Oh! how I should loath the Creatures that should shew such monstrous Impudence! you talk of dressing yourself, this is undressing; you are half naked: As for your Stays, if it be the Fashion to have them cut so low, you might find out something else to cover your Body; but you are so far from striving to hide it, that the very Shift is put by, for fear it should hinder the Eye; I can't call it taking up your Smock, but it is pulling it off, which is worse: Suppose your Stays were cut as low as your Navel, pray, would you shew it? Nay, it does not want above an Inch or two of it now. Women in Strictness, should never appear in Publick but veil'd; at least young Women should never shew their Faces to any Man but their nearest Relations.

Au. Indeed, Aunt, when 'tis the Fashion

to go veil'd, I won't flick out, but I shall hardly begin first.

Leo. I don't bid you be veil'd, Mrs. Pert; but there is abundance of Difference between veiling and going bare-afs'd; Fashions and Customs I know have alter'd with the Time; sometimes People have wore long Cloaths, sometimes short ones; but I never heard, or ever read of an Age, before this, if the People were any ways civiliz'd, but they had some Garment or other (whatever they did to their Legs and Arms) to cover the main Body, the Trunk itself; now a Days the very Virgins that should be the Temple of Modesty, go with their Bodies half naked, and not only so, but the obscene Part of their Bodies.

Aa. I never knew that the Neck was an obscene Part.

Leo. What you call your Neck is an obscene Part; here your Neck ends, at the Collar Bone; this is your Chest, your Bosom, this is the Pit of your Stomach, these are your Breasts; you make a strange long Neck of it, and are like the Sign Painters, who only call it a Head, tho' they paint a Man or a Woman as far as the Waste; you may as well call it your Chin, as your Neck.

Au.

Au. Well, let it be called Bosom, or what Part you please, why is it obscene ?

Leo. Why I wonder you should ask that Question ; can any thing be more obscene than the very Marks of your Body, by which you are known to be a Woman : All virtuous People think it obscene either in Man or Woman, to shew any thing naked that may tempt the other to Wickedness ; but it is much more so to prostitute those Parts by which the Sexes are distinguish'd.

Au. If that be true, Aunt, a long, fusty Beard must be a very obscene Sight, for there the Men differ from us with a Witness ; and yet, I declare, I could see a Beard of a Yard and an Half long, without any manner of Temptation.

Leo. Now you think you have said a mighty Thing, I warrant ye.

Au. Indeed, Aunt, I wonder any civil Government should suffer People to draw *Moses* and *Aaron*, and all the Patriarchs, with so much Obscenity about them. In the Picture of *Abraham's* Offering, that hangs over the Top of our Stair-Case, the old Gentleman has Hair enough in his Beard to make him a good handsome Perriwig ; which, if he had lived in this Age, no doubt but every-

every-body would have advised him to, because he is so very bald.

Leo. How fain, now, would you be witty upon Beards, and ridicule what I said about the Distinction of the Sexes; but you only shew your Ignorance. I deny that Beards distinguish the Sex; Beards are Hair, and, for the Generality, Men, when they arrive to their full Strength, are more or less hairy all over; their Face, Arms, Legs, Breast, no Place is free; and, strictly speaking, Men differ from Women in every thing; their Skins is not so plump as ours, nor the Grain of it so fine; their Muscles and Sinews are more brawny and conspicuous than ours; we differ in the very Make of our Bodies; Men are broader in the Shoulders than the Hips, with us it is the Reverse; but by these Things the Sexes are not distinguish'd. I have known a Woman that had Hair between her Breasts, and some have so much about their Faces, that they are forc'd to clip it every Week; nay, there are Women that are constantly shaved as well as Men; therefore there cannot be any Obscenity in that which is no distinguishing Character.

Au. Indeed, Aunt, you need not have taken half the Pains to convince me that
Beards

Beards are not obscene ; I never thought 'em so ; what I said was only in Jest, for I believe few Women are charm'd with them.

Leo. Not so neither, Child ; this is another Error ; but as I have shewed you the Folly of your Comparison of the Men's Beards with Women's Breasts, so now I will shew you your Simplicity in thinking that there is no Allurements in Beards ; for, without Question, they are design'd as great Ornaments to Man, but as nothing looks handsome as is not the Mode, so Beards not being in Fashion, you see no-body wear 'em but here and there a poor old Creature, or some nasty, slovenly Fellow or other, that would not be very tempting, Beard or no Beard ; and this is the Reason why Women dislike long Beards ; Gentlemen, now a Days, keep them close shav'd, so there is no knowing a handsome Beard from another ; but when it was the Fashion to let them grow, no doubt but the Women of those Ages preferred a thick, strong, brown, curl'd, bushy Beard, to a thin, lank, straggling one, that had all the Colours of the Rainbow in it : But, besides, Beards are graceful, even as they wear them now ; for tho' they are cut never so close, there are Signs enough remaining by
which

which they may be discovered; and consult but your own Thoughts, which do you esteem to be the handsomest Chin, that on which the Marks of a strong, manly Beard appears, or that of a Milk-chopp'd Fellow, that has not a Hair about his Face, and looks like a Girl in Man's Cloaths.

Au. Truly, Aunt, I never stare so much in Men's Faces to mind the Difference.

Leo. The less the better, assure yourself; but leaving Beards to their Owners, I hope you are satisfied, after what I have said, that it is not modest for Women to shew their naked Breasts to all the World.

Au. I confess, Aunt, I am not of your Opinion, but think that nothing is immodest in dressing, but when People shew those Parts which the Custom of the Country bids them hide: In some Countries Women's Petticoats reach but a little below their Knees; yet if here a Woman, walking along the Streets, should pluck up her Coats half Way the Calf of her Leg, every-body would call her immodest; and, therefore, if any Parts be obscene, they must be those that are carefully hid, and not those that are used to be bare.

Leo.

Leo. O strange! O strange! what Age do we live in? What Notions are these? That no Part is obscene when it is the Fashion to shew it: Suppose once it should be the Fashion for Women to be covered all over, except from the Navel to the middle of the Thighs, which would be the obscene Parts, those that were cover'd, or those that were not?

Au. I don't believe that there ever will be such a nasty Fashion, and therefore I need not trouble myself upon that Supposition: But now, Aunt, let us leave this Discourse for a few Moments, and talk of something else. That is a fine Lap-Dog you gave me Yesterday. I never saw a larger Eye in my Life; Oh, sweet Creature! there's delicate Ears.

Leo. 'Tis a right *Bolonese*; you must get it a Silver Collar.

Au. No, that will hurt it; I'll make it a pretty one with Ribbons: What is it, a Bitch? Pray what's its Name?

Leo. I can't tell; you may call it what you please.

Au. Then I'll call it *Die, Die, Die, Diana*. I am glad 'tis a Bitch, Aunt; I'll borrow Sir *James's* Dog; that's just such
C another,

another, then we shall have fine Puppies. What d'ye laugh at, Aunt ?

Leo. You give the Bitch a very chaste Name, and the next Thing you think of is Generation.

Au. That's nothing in our Town, as long as she is old enough.

Leo. But what makes you so wanton this Morning ?

Au. I think I am far from it ; these two or three Mornings I have had abundance of Water upon my Stomach ; methinks I am very maukish.

Leo. You will drink that Chocolate with Ambergrise and Venellies ; I told you it was not good for you ; it makes your Blood too rich, and you take no Exercise. I saw how you hugg'd *Camilla* just now, as if you would have kifs'd her thro'.

Au. You make me blush, Aunt ; is there any Harm in kissing her ?

Leo. It was not design'd for your Sister ; and look'd to me as if you had been venting some other Thoughts ; had you been kissing all Mankind in her, you could have express'd no more Eagerness : But now I'll let you into the Secrets of Matrimony, that you may be a Judge of the Sufferings that attend

attend it. When you marry, you have a Man for your Partner, who is a venomous Creature, and, in a short Time after you converse with him, will cause you to look thin visag'd, pale, yellow, and look as if you were bewitch'd; not be able to endure the Sight of Bread, loath the best of Food, and, in an Instance, get an Aversion to twenty Things that you used to love before, whilst you'll run raving mad for strange, nasty, and unnatural Messes, that no human Stomach ever crav'd, with an Appetite so uncommon and unaccountable, that if it be not satisfied, and you are deny'd, or any-ways hinder'd in your frantick Lusts, you'll swoon away, be thrown into Convulsions, and such Agonies as have often prov'd fatal; besides all these Things, there is the losing of your fine Shape, the fading of your Beauty, the spoiling of your fine Bosome, &c.

Au. If these little Disorders were the worst, I should not think so much of it; for I see Men and Women both laugh at them daily.

Leo. Dear *Aurelia*, what mild Creature are you grown; it grieves me to the very Soul to think how much you are alter'd for the worse within these three or four Years

that you wrote Woman. I have given you a virtuous Education; my Conscience is discharg'd; I can do no more: When you was between 14 and 15, I thought I should have had some Comfort of you, but now I see that all my Hopes are blasted; Oh! then your Cheeks were not stain'd with those guilty Blushes: How meek was then your Look? How modest your Eyes, which now rowl like Fire Balls, and shoot as if they were ready to fly out of your Head?

Au. I am sorry, Aunt, you should like my Looks worse now I am in Health, than when I was eat up with the Green Sickness, and my Eyes had no more Liveliness in 'em, than the Eyes of a dead Whiting.

Leo. Do not talk to me; every thing about you smells so strong of the Harlot I can't abide you; what have you done to your Hair? What makes it so bright and so shining?

Au. I don't know, I have done nothing to it; I han't put so much as a little Powder in it.

Leo. If it was Red or Yellow, you would have put enough in it: What an odious Way you have of dressing your Head; all that Hair there, methinks, looks most abominably;

minably ; prithe, Niece, cut off your Hair, and I'll give you Five Guineas.

Au. Thank you, Aunt ; I might have above Ten for it if I would sell it ; but I am not covetuous, neither do I think it looks handsome for a Gentlewoman to cut off her Hair for the Lucre of Money ; I would do it with all my Heart to please you, if you would stop there ; but you are pleased to find so much Fault with my Looks in general, I am afraid, should I cut off my Hair to Day, to Morrow you'd ask me to put out one of my Eyes, and I should not willingly lose one of them, because they are Fellows.

Leo. If you knew, *Aurelia*, how little your Jestings and Joaking becomes you, when I would give you good and wholesome Advice, you would not be so fond of it. It is, as you say, not only your Hair that displeases me, but your Forehead, your Eyes, your Lips, your Mein and Dress ; they are all equally offensive to a virtuous Eye ; but, above all, that large Tract of clear transparent Skin, which you are only pleas'd to call your Neck, tho' it reaches above half way your Body ; but we'll let this drop a little. Was the Captain here to Day ?

Au

Au. Yes, Aunt.

Leo. What is that Spot upon your Arm, Niece ?

Au. That's a Mark of your beloved Captain ; I verily believe I have had it above a Fortnight. There is not such a wild Boar again in *England*, as that nasty Tarpawlin ; he rumples my Headcloaths, kisses and flabbers me over every Moment ; I hate him mortally : He never was here to see you, but he teaz'd me to Death ; he hurts my Arms, squeezes my Hands, pushes me from him, then hawls me to him again ; and plays with me as if I was a Puppy that wanted warming.

Leo. A rough, harmless Soul !

Au. Harmless do you call him ? I am sure he is very impudent. Last Time he was here, he put his Hand down my Bosom as low as he could thrust it ; and he is so strong, I can as well remove the House as hinder him. I have been amaz'd, sometimes, you never spoke to him ; nay, when he has tumbl'd and towz'd me before your Face, I have seen you smile at it, as if you had been very well pleased. I can't imagine you should not apprehend a Man that is really rude, when I see you so very watchful

watchful over every civil Gentleman that comes near me, tho' no-body ever offers to touch me but that unpolish'd Sea Monster.

Leo. I know it is a Way he has of shewing his Gallantry ; but I don't fear him.

An. But I do fear him ; for what you call Gallantry, is downright Incivility.

Leo. There is nothing more dangerous than to trust young Women with what you call *civil* Gentlemen ; for by not offering any thing to them, they disperse their Fear, and make them tame : If once they can persuade them to listen calmly to their wheedling Cant, the Bridle is soon thrown over their Heads : And this is the Reason why you have always seen me so distrustful of their Civility, and so little concern'd at the Captain's Rudeness, because he is just like Boys that throw their Hats at the Horses ; he may frighten you, but he'll never trick you into Slavery. A Man that is always kissing and hawling of a Woman, puts her upon her Guard himself, and young Women hate nothing more than Men that are troublesome in teasing and laying hold of 'em ; but especially if they tumble their Cloaths, or any-ways disoblige their Dress. But don't be angry, Niece, he shall trouble you

no

no more : I confess, seeing his Honour, I have made use of him as a Tool to rouse you, because I know that when Maids are so served by Men they don't fancy, it not only renders them that plague them odious, but likewise makes them slyer of others, to whom they would else be indifferent ; so now we will let the Captain alone, and begin a new Discourse. Niccc, I observ'd you to eat to Day with a better Appetite than you did Yesterday : What, your Dancing-bout agrees with you, does it ?

Au. Yes, Aunt, I am much better than I was ; but don't you think it dangerous to trust me amongst so many young Fellows ?

Leo. Much less than where there is but one or two, because the Objects jostle out one another, and none can make a deep Impression.

Au. That may be ; but when they handle me about, and I am so close to 'em, as one is oblig'd to be in Country Dances, it makes a strange Commotion in me, in spite of my Teeth : At first of all it is as if it would stifle me, and takes away my Breath.

Leo. That is because it is sweet, and the Men draw it. Did you never hear of Cats sucking the Breath of Children ?

Au.

Au. But, without bantering, *Aunt*, did you ever observe that yourself? It is only in the Beginning; as soon as I am tir'd a little it goes off.

Leo. When I was young, without doubt I was as the rest; but don't be troubled at it; the more you frequent great Companies, the sooner it will wear off. Do but keep them from reasoning, and being alone with you, and you are safe; for I never fear your falling in Love at Sight. I know that being so near them, as well as the Wantonness of the Motion itself, but making an Agitation in the Blood, stirs up the Thoughts, and raises some hidden Wishes; but the same Motion long continued, by dissipating the Spirits, will lay them again, and you'll always find yourself easy after it.

Au. Well, *Aunt*, we will let this Talk cease, and call another Subject: Suppose I should ask you a Question, you won't take it amiss?

Leo. No, I assure you, *Aurelia*, let it be what it will.

Au. You say, then, that shewing my Bosom is indecent, because of our Breasts, by which we are known to be Women; if the Mischief lies there, I wonder you never spoke to our

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Betty,

Betty, who shews three times as much Breast as I.

Leo. What, *Betty* ! poor greasy Wench, that, with a huge Pair of Dugs, stands sweating and broiling over the Fire : She would hide them if she could ; you see her Bodice are cramm'd that they are ready to burst. What should she do, pray ? If you would not have her leave the Remainder open, she must be choak'd : She does not do it out of Pride, because she thinks it looks handsome : Where could be the Temptation, pray, in seeing those Tawny Bags lie quaking before her like a Tub of Size, tho' they are penned up so close, that she can hardly squeeze the Key of the Pantry between them ? You have made a fine Comparison : What you do is with a wicked Design ; you shew your Breasts because you think them attractive and ensnaring : They can't be call'd small, indeed, but then they are nothing to your high and broad Chest. See how filthily and boldly they stand pouting out, and bid Defiance to your Stays ; one would not think that any thing made of Flesh and Blood could be so hard and ugly as they are : Nay, you are all of a Piece ; do but mind once, with how much Immodesty that
Orange

Orange, and them Leaves are stuck o'the Top of your Stays.

Au. Ha! ha! ha!

Leo. Do you laugh, Hussy; you have more Reason to cry, to see your self made an Instrument of the Devil to ruin Souls withal.

Au. Indeed, *Aunt*, I could not forbear laughing when I heard you talk of the Immodesty of the Orange.

Leo. What, do you wonder at that? Don't you think a Bawd is immodest.

Au. I suppose so, tho' I never was acquainted with any in my Life, as I know of.

Leo. Would you think her to be a Bawd that should turn up a handsome young Woman, and shew all she has to all Commers and Goers?

Au. Such a one would be a Jade indeed; but what Relation has this to the Orange?

Leo. Perhaps you think it much worse to shew the under Part of a Woman than the upper Part, but that's a grand Mistake; that Part which is the most handsomest, and consequently the most tempting to Sin, is, without doubt, the most abominable Shew. Now which do you think the most agreeable Part of a Woman? Without dispute the upper

Part which you shew : Women are only handsome so far as now they go naked, and that makes me of your Opinion, that it will never be the Fashion to shew the lower Parts ; for there Women are ugly, ill-shaped, nasty Creatures, or else they would have brought up the Fashion long ago. Don't think it is let alone out of Modesty ; no, they are only afraid Men will despise and hate them for it. Do you not think, that if the under Parts of Women were set in as full a View as now the upper Parts are, they would in a short Time become very loathsome to the Spectators ? I remember what just now you ridiculed the Pictures of the old *Patriarchs* for ; and what do you think of this ?

Au. I do not understand what you mean ; neither do I desire to know any thing of it ; I can only tell you, that I never thought all this depended upon a poor Orange ; I promise you, that To-morrow I'll put in a Lemon.

Leo. Then you'll mend the matter much ; Oranges, Lemons, Jessamin, and all manner of Nofegays, or Breast Knots, have the same Effect, and are put there for the same Purpose.

Au.

Au. I always thought so too, and can't imagine, since you are such an implacable Enemy to Nakedness, you should not approve of Breast Knots and Nosegays, for I am sure one's Stays look very bare without something or other upon them.

Leo. Would you have me believe they are to hide any thing, or to smell to? Poor Girl! They are not placed there on so foolish an Errand; your Aunt knows better; their Business there is to gather the Rays of the Eye, on that white Vale there betwixt your Breasts, and fix it on your Bosom; and as a Spot in a white Cloath draws the Sight to it whether we will or no, so that Orange is set there to engage the Standers-by; and for fear it might be over look'd, points at the Shew, with which you are so pleas'd, at the Expence of your Modesty, to treat the Publick: And you that love to be witty, *Aurelia*, shall I tell you in a Word how it looks in regard to your Skin.

Au. What you please, Aunt.

Leo. For all the World like a Hand to an Advertisement of what you would dispose of.

Au. All this can't put me out of Humour.

Leo. What are you muttering between your Teeth, *Aurelia*? You used to be very smart

finart at Rapertec: How do you like my Simile? Have I gall'd you?

Au. No, Aunt, not at all: For if it be as you say, it is to be hoped I shan't be long without a Chapman; and depend on it, if I meet with a good one to my Mind, i'll part with the Cargo.

Leo. It is easy to be seen you are weary of it; but you talk of a good one, I believe an indifferent one would serve your Turn.

Au. I can't help your Ceasures; but I am not so weary of it as you imagine: It shall never go but on very good Terms.

Leo. Perhaps you don't know, that it is a Notion among Merchants, that when Goods have been much expos'd and blown upon; and the Owners seem to be very desirous to be rid of them, creditable Dealers won't meddle with them, unless they can get them for a Song.

Au. I am not to be accountable for other Ladies Actions. I never gave any Reason for this Imputation, more than the Wantonness and Immodesty you are pleas'd to charge me with: Not but I could answer you, Aunt, in your own Dialect, if I had a mind to make you angry.

Leo.

Leo. Make me angry ; I dare say you don't mind that ; or was it only an Excuse to fluddy the whilst ? Pray Niece let me hear what it is you would say ?

Au. I could say, that when People of Skill like their Goods, they matter but little what spiteful Neighbours speak against them ; that old Traders commonly envy young Ones ; that, instead of assisting them, and wishing them well, they endeavour to undermine their Credit, and blow them up, if they can ; that, generally speaking, it vexes them to the Heart to see the other thrive, because they unjustly look upon them as so many Intruders into their Business. I could say, that they often maliciously give an ill Name to new Beginners, for no other Reason, than to blast their Reputation, and undervalue their Commodity only to spoil a good Bargain.

Leo. So Niece, I hear that, right or wrong you can say a great deal ; but if by old Traders you mean me, you are mightily mistaken, for I never dealt that Way.

Au. You never was marry'd, indeed.

Leo. Your Spleen don't offend me ; out with it ; you would say I did worse.

Au. I don't say so; I am not so censorious as others.

Leo. But you more deserve to be censured than others; for I can never think, if any thing offer'd, you would be so difficult, or stand upon those Punctillo's you talk of; and I am apt to believe, that rather than keep the Commodity upon your Hands, you'll give Trust by Retail.

Au. Pray, Aunt, speak plain, and tell me you believe I am a common Whore?

Leo. Could the courteous *Aurelia* be ever cruel! no sure: You have no denying Face Child; and then, when People are so obliging in shewing their Goods, who would not think but that any one might have a Sample for asking for? How, in Tears, Niece! Melting with Remorse?

Au. Oh! my wronged Innocence makes me bleed.

Leo. That was an heroick Flight, and would do well in a Tragedy.

Au. I had rather be buried alive than be thus tormented every Day; And, pray, for what? For not being lame, blind, or crooked? If I was as frightful as the Devil, perhaps I should lead a better Life; for when ever I have any thing that looks tolerably well of late,

late, I am sure to be abused for it. If my Mother might have lived to see me grow up, she would have taken Delight in it, poor Woman ! But I have neither Father nor Mother ; my Sister is but a Child ; would it not make a Stone weep to see the only Relation that should take my Part, set all her Wit to work to render me odious, and blast my Reputation, for nothing else, but because I wont be particular. My Father was a Baronet ; 'tis true, he lived to spend his Fortune ; but then my Aunt that's dead, has handsomely provided for me. Five thousand Pounds is no despicable Fortune for a young Woman that is of a good Family : I don't go above it, nor covet rich Cloaths : I love to be clean, and have my Things made fashionable. You gave me Education ; I own it, and thank you for it ; but then on my Part, have I not always paid you the same Respect as if you had been my Mother ? What have I done to deserve your ill Will ? Do I converse with any-body that is not suitable to my Fortune and Quality ? What Indiscretion have I been guilty of ? Who is more reserved in Men's Company than I ? I never was alone with any one in my Life, unless it was in seeing me home from some

Ball, publick Entertainment, or other Solemnity, where it would have been Rudeness to deny them ; and yet, had I been the Strumpet to a Regiment of Foot Soldiers, you could not have talked to me worse than you do. I think myself in Heaven, when I enjoy but one Hour without being rail-
ed at.

Leo. Indeed, *Aurelia*, the Hardships you labour under are beyond Measure, at least any-body would think so, to see you in this Posture, and hear your Moan ; for it is not to be believed that a young Lady, to whom Nature has been so lavish, and Fortune no Niggard ; one that never shewed a great Dislike to the World, should wish herself buried alive, rather than bear her Torments any longer, unless they exceed the common Rate of Afflictions : However, I had rather see you in this Humour, than when you are laughing at all good Counsel, and jeering every thing that's Chaste and Sober.

Au. I suppose so, because now I look worse.

Leo. I don't think you do ; but it is not for that, it is because I love a meek Spirit better than a stubborn one.

Au.

Au. Well, Aunt, I think it will be better to let this Discourse drop, for I am quite tired of it.

Leo. Please yourself; but pray take my Advice, and don't make yourself odious to the World; so farewell.

VERSES by a LADY, in Praise
of her own Estate.

A Manor large, by *Chloe* was possess'd,
Yet *Chloe* Night and Day could take no Rest;
Oft, she complain'd, and curs'd her cruel Fate;
Barren, alas! tho' large, was her Estate:
No Pains she spared, no Money to procure
(To fertilize her Land) the best *Manure*.

Farmers, well skill'd in cultivating Ground,
She try'd, but from their *Art* no Help she found.
Yearly the Parson's *Glebe* produc'd good Fruit,
To him she goes, and asks if he could do't?
The *Charitable* Man essay'd — in vain —
And now poor *Chloe* does again complain,
Scanting, perhaps, the Measure that he gave,
Knowing his *Glebe* a greater Share must have,

Or

Or the *Manure* was not with Skill apply'd,
Or by *excessive Heat* too soon was dry'd :
Her Head with Thoughts were wreck'd, her
[Heart with Grief,
For, oh ! Sterility finds no Relief.

Just in the Center stood a pleasant Mount,
Whose many Charms no Language can recount ;
So beautiful, it baffled Painters Art
To draw the Semblance of one single Part.
Beneath it was a Well, by Nature made,
Which none could fathom, tho' they of't essay'd ;
In various Shapes it often did appear,
And Fools said, 'twas by *magick Art* plac'd there ;
Sure none but Fools, or *Nincompoops*, at best,
With such a silly Thought could be possess'd :
And yet this *Well* that stood in *Cloe's* Ground,
If she were absent, no where could be found.

About the Margin at the *Well* there grew
A pliable soft *Grass* of Nut-brown Hue ;
The Sun's all-scorching Beams had ne'er been
[there, }
And yet in e'ery Month throughout the Year, }
This *Grass*, oft wet with Dew, did brown appear. }
Each *Blade* thereof, tho' soft, was full as strong
As Cable-rope, but yet not quite so long ;
"Twould

'Twould draw an *Hermit* from his lonely Cell,
 And make him kneel with Zeal before the *Well*:
 Drag *Pope's* and *Cardinal's* from Mid-night Pray'r,
 And *Statesmen* from the Nation's *Grand Affair*.

At length this *Well* forth nauseous Vapours sent,
 Which had too long within been closely pent.

Farmers of every Sort consulted were
 In this, so critical and nice Affair;
 But their Opinion e'er they did disclose,
 'Mongst them a long and warm Debate arose;
 At length they to a Resolution came,
 And thus their *Chair-man* did declare the same.

Madam, with joyful Hearts, we now draw near,
 And hope to banish all your anxious Care.
 That your *Estate* has barren been, we know,
 And you, by long Experience, found it so;
 But now, to say, we humbly do beg leave,
 The Cause of *Barrenness* we plain perceive;
 And when the Cause of any thing is known,
 A speedy Cure may be perform'd, we own. —

The nauseous Vapours, which had close been
 Requiring, for some Years, a nat'ral Vent,
 Had underneath the Surface of the Earth
 Diffus'd themselves, preventing nat'ral Birth;
 Of

Of *Moisture radical* 'twas then depriv'd,
 And *Genial Heat*, by which it should have thriv'd,
 Aborb'd by *Them* the *Salts Prolifick* were,
 And *Those* the Cause of Barrenness appear.
 This was our *Parson's* Case, when he, good Man !)
 To Occupy his *Glebe* at first began ;
 Follow his Rule, some Fellow streight employ,
 To *Scour* the *Well* that does your *Land* annoy :
 Then, Madam, soon as possible, be sure
 To use the richest, and the best, *Manure*.

Chloe return'd 'em Thanks, and in a Trice,
 Determin'd to pursue their Sage Advice.

A Fool she kept, (for *Fools* were then in Fashion,
 As *now* is daily seen throughout the Nation ;)
 She made him Work as hard as *Carmen's* Horse,
 No Skill he had, but he us'd all his Force :
 By Night and Day he slav'd to scour her *Well*,
 And was not injur'd by th' *Effluvia's* Smell.
 This Task perform'd, her *Land* he next *Manur'd*,
 Then *Plough'd* and *Sow'd* ; soon *Chloe* was assur'd
 Her Land was fertiliz'd, and she would find,
 A *Crop* to please, and to divert her Mind.

A *Crop* she had ; and now she those does foil,
 Who call'd her *Lady of the Barren Soil* ;

She

She values not what *Prudes* demurely say,
 Whose Thoughts are vicious at the Time they pray:
 Nor does she blush to own (for 'tis confess'd
 She found it so) a Fool manures the best.

Then save your Breath, good Folks, your Broth
 [to cool,
 For *Chloe* has but WISELY plaid the Fool.

*A JOURNEY to Bristol for the Recovery
 of Health. Inscribed to the Honour-
 able Miss V--e.*

YOUNG *Cælia* pretended to be in sad taking,
 And begg'd of the Q--n to excuse her from
 [Waiting;
 Complain'd that *St. James's* had very bad Air,
 And journey'd to *Bristol* to breathe sweeter there.

The Change was attended with happy Success;
 Her Petticoats lengthen'd, her Belly grew less:
 And in less than nine Months, the sole Cause of
 [her Harms
 Set her Body at Ease, and fell into her Arms.

In

*In Praise of T E A. Addressed to the
Court Ladies, particularly M - - ds of
Honour.*

LET other Bards *Leander's* Passion move,
Tosing, in melting Strains, bright *Hero's* Love;
Let others in the Praise of Sieges sing,
And to the Warrior's Actions tune their String:
May I to modern Females grateful be,
With fashionable Verse, in Praise of Tea.
Cælestial Beauty, *Venus*, Queen of Love,
With sprinkling Show'rs descending from above,
First swells the Bud, then, with refulgent Rays,
Bright *Sol* the Leaf in verdant Pride displays.
Declining *Autumn* bids us next prepare
To gather this ripe Present for the Fair.

As soon as Dinner's o'er, the Maids retire
To hang the Boiler o'er the Kitchen Fire;
Return, with Broom in Hand, to sweep all clear,
Before the ceremonious Fair appear :
All Things are plac'd ; the Table's dusted o'er,
And, being cover'd with its *Indian* Store,
The Nymphs appear ; and at the Door begin
To compliment which first shall enter in.

After

After those little Forms, they all sit down,
And tattle over Half the News in Town.
One fondly tells who is her fav'rite Swain ;
How he does sue, how movingly complain:
One boasts what Conquests her bright Charms
[have made ;
How many Hearts she prostrate bleeding laid.
Inspir'd by *Tea*, they spend the tedious Hours,
More pleas'd than *Venus* in her Myrtle Bow'rs.

Oh happy Leaf! had you but Eyes to see
What Homage by the Fair is paid to thee;
What great Attendance at thy Levy wair,
Thou would'st assume the Pinacle of State;
Beyond the Myrtle Leaves, or Orange shine,
And Roses Beauty should give Way to thine.

Oh thou bright Female Sex's dear Repast !
Polite Refiner of coquettish Taste !
From China Pot, adorn'd with Silver Spout,
Your sacred Streams the Fair with Joy pour out,
T' indulge themselves with you in private love,
Nor envy Nectar to the Gods above.

The Apothecary's Daughter.

IN *Kingston-wick*, as Stories tell,
 Old Gaffer *Goodman* chose to dwell:
 He dealt in Plasters, Salves, and Blisters,
 In Phials, Galli-Pots, and Clysters.

One Drug of precious Taste and Pow'r
 He kept among the nauseous Store;
Chloe, the Young, the Ripe, the Fair,
 The only Object of his Care:
 He long'd to see her fairly wed,
 E'er naughty Fancies fill'd her Head.

When lo! a Youth of stately Port
 Was introduc'd to pay his Court.

Old *Goodman* thought the Visit long,
 And fear'd there might be somewhat wrong.
 To *Chloe's* Room in haste he flies:
 But scarce could he believe his Eyes!
 In wanton Dalliance *Chloe* prest
 The youthful Stranger to her Breast!

Mischance still waits upon Mischance:
 Behold the Royal Guards advance;
 The stately Train awful reveals,
 That *Chloe's* Love was P—— of W——.
What

What Tongue can utter *Goodman's* Rage,
 To see the Comfort of his Age,
 His Darling *Chloe's* Reputation,
 Become Diversion to the Nation.
 He curst his Hour, damn'd all Mankind,
 And *Chloe* under Lock confin'd.
 Fruitless his last, as first, Effort;
 For *Chloe* soon appear'd at Court.

*The FAVOURITE. Inscribed to two of
 the Maids of Honour to her Majesty.*

M-rd—nt and *V-n-*, two Honorary Dames,
 By turns in youthful *F--*'s kindled Flames:
 Long strove each conscious she with study'd Art,
 To rob the other of their Prince's Heart.
 In vain the Strife. The gen'rous Youth deny'd
 Either to sacrifice to t'other's Pride.
 'Till Fortune, bent to baulk the just Decree,
 With cruel Joy confronts the lovely Three.
 Sad Interview! for Man by far too much!
 Not *Love* himself with two can stand the Touch.
 How to behave to each observing Maid!
 To offer Nought, Ill-Manners had betray'd;

II.

Thus modern Prince, in cheaful Plight,
 When out of his dear Mamma's Sight,
 In *Drury's* antient *Hundred's* ;
 Sends for the willing Doxies round,
 The wheedling Bawds too heard the Sound,
 Obey'd with Joy, and wonder'd.

III.

Old Mother Abbess ope's the Scene,
 Complains her tender Daughter's been
 By Ravishers betray'd :
 Miss next appears, clad in the Guise
 Of Mother *Eve* in Paradise,
 And to his H——s said :

IV.

Help, Royal Sir, I crave of thee ;
 From Violence pray set me free ;
 And you shall have my Pray'r :
 Then other down-cast Maids advance,
 Who sham'd, like her, some sad Mischance ;
 All to the Skin made bare.

V. Their

V.

Their clean-wash'd Limbs they flily twin'd
 To various POSTURES, that defin'd
 How well they knew to move.
 With dextrous Art they sink and rise,
 By Turns, their Buttocks, Hips, and Thighs,
 As in the Act of Love.

VI.

Thus the contending Goddesſes
 On *Ida's* Summit ſtrove to pleaſe
Paris' diſcerning Eyes :
 Their naked Beauties they diſplay'd
 Before the wandring Shepherd, made
 The Umpire of the Prize.

VII.

Fatal to both the pleaſing Sight :
Paris loſt Life and Kingdom by't,
 When *F*—— left the *Rummer* :
 Her *M*—— vext to the Heart,
 That he ſhould act ſo mean a Part,
 With Buffets ſpurn'd him from her.

The

The Constant Fair. A BALLAD.

W Here is he gone, whom I adore?
 The God-like Man I see no more
 Yet without Rest, his Tyrant Charms
 Beat in my Heart still new Alarms.

Assist, dear Honour, take my Part,
 Or I am lost, with all my Art;
 Tear his Idea from my Breast,
 Tho' with it I am more than blest.

My Reason too, prepare your Arms,
 Lest he return with greater Charms;
 Love's fatal and imprison'd Dart,
 Draw from my tender bleeding Heart.

On a PUNCH-BOWL, belonging to a
COURT SOT.

O·ER this the Wretch no Sorrow knows,
 Long as e'er the Liquor flows;
 When 'tis out, the happy Swain
 Grieves, unless 'tis fill'd again.

On

*On a FLEA, leaping into a Lady's Bed
at St. James's.*

BOLD Animal, that dares presume
To enter this wide spacious Room ;
And from the Floor to take a Spring
Into my Bed ; presumptuous Thing !
Dare thou a human Carcass seize,
Or run about us thus to tease.
Tho' little, bold Tormenter know,
My Thumb shall kill you at a Blow :
At last, o'er power'd, the Flea did die ;
I heard him crack, but could not here him cry.

*On the CHARMS of a young Lady
of the first Rank.*

DO LLY's Beauty and Art,
Have so hemm'd in my Heart,
That I cannot resist the Charm :
In Revenge I will stich
Up the Hole next her Breech,
With a Needle as long as my Arm.

EPITAPH *on a WIFE, by her*
HUSBAND.

HERE my poor, dear Wife does lie ;
Here I'll howl, and yell, and cry :
*Ah, alas ! how vex'd am I,
That she did not sooner die.*

A BALLAD *on an insulting, in-*
constant Woman.

I.

INsulting Beauty, you mispend
Those Frowns upon your Slave :
Your Scorns against such Rebels bend,
Who dare with Confidence pretend,
That other Eyes their Hearts defend,
From all the Charms you have.

II.

Your conqu'ring Eyes so partial are,
O: Mankind is so dull,

G

That

That while I languish in Despair,
 Many proud senseless Hearts declare,
 They find you not so killing Fair,
 To wish you merciful.

III.

They an inglorious Freedom boast;
 I triumph in my Chain,
 Nor am I unreveng'd, tho' lost,
 Nor you unpunish'd, tho' unjust,
 When I alone, who love you most,
 Am kill'd with your Disdain.

SUSANNAH *and the Two* ELDERS.
 A T A L E.

WHEN fair *Susannah*, in a cool Retreat
 Of shady Arbours, shun'd the Sultry Heat,
 Two wanton Letchers to her Garden came,
 And, rushing furious, seiz'd the trembling Dame.
 What Female Strength could do, her Arms per-
 [form,
 And guarded well the Fort they strove to storm.
 he Story's antient, and (if rightly told)
 Young was the Lady, but the Lovers old.

Had

Had the Reverse been true, had Authors sung,
 How that the Dame was old, the Lovers young;
 If she had then the blooming Pair deny'd,
 With tempting Youth and Vigour on their Side,
 Lord! how the Story would have shock'd my
 For that had been a Miracle indeed. [Creed!]

EPITAPH *on a Taylor's Wife.*

FROM *Abraham's* Bosom full of Lice,
 To *Abraham's* Bolom in Paradise;
 Our Sister *Sarah* took her Flight,
 And bid the knitty Dog good Night.

BEAUTY in MASQUERADE.
Inscribed to the C---fs of S---k.

UNmask'd, fair *Cælia*, eve'ry nat'ral Charm,
 Nor your own Beauties with acquir'd Harm;
 Not artful Cereuse can adorn that Face,
 Nor can such daubing, with it's borrow'd Grace,
 Mend those fine Features, which alone may vie
 With bright *Aurora's* Charms that gild the Sky.

The new-blown Rose her natural Blushes yields,
And seems the Goddess Flower of the Fields;
Plain as from Nature sprung, no Art desires,
Nor added Beauty to it's Charms requires;
It's fragrant Odours scant the flow'ry Plain,
And the pale *Lilley* rivals it in vain.

Just so indulgent Nature has bestow'd
On you her Beauty, and her Smiles has throw'd ;
But you, puff'd up with Pride, disdain her Gift,
And strive to add a Lustre at a Lift ;
Too soon those paultry Mixtures will decay,
And make your natural Beauty fade away.

When Years creep on, and all your Charms
[are fled,
And you behold that whither'd Trunk look
[dead ;
The Branches from it fall'n, can sprout no more,
Nor shine with Bloom so charming as before ;
Then will you curse that Art you now carests,
And strive to be more tempting, yet be less.

*An Italian Wit's Question to the Earl
of Rochester.*

SUPPOSE that your King he should Command,
A naked Woman to walk thro' the Strand;
What would you do about the Matter,
To keep the People from laughing at her.

The Earl of Rochester's Answer.

If such a Thing should come to pass,
Clap you your Nose into her A--se;
And when that the People begin to stir,
They'll laugh at you, and not at her.

*A SATYR upon E V E. Address'd
to all Prudes*

WHEN *Adam* saw the Beauty by his Side,
With new-born Joy, he view'd the
[charming Bride;
Her, whom he knew on no small Errand sent,
Because procur'd by the Omnipotent:
But if he lov'd her eagerly,
Impatient to enjoy the Heavenly she,
As for her Part, shew'd no great Cruelty;

}
And

And *Adam* quickly found, much for our Good,
That she was made of the same Flesh and Blood.

Both gor'd, both were surpriz'd ; and as they
[ey'd
With wishful Looks, what neither strove to hide ;
Both equally o'ercome by diff'rent Charms,
Rush'd, without Courtship, to each others Arms ;
Disolv'd at once, and shot thro' ev'ry Vain ;
Felt all the Joys of Love, without the Pain.

On her it work'd with greater Influence,
Than all her Daughters e'er could boast of since:
Sure, Friend, this happy pair, who never knew
The Intrigues of Church or Play-house, must be
[true.

Was ever Woman honest, it was she ;
Perhaps you'll say, she was forc'd so to be ;
There were no other Men, and being alone,
'Twas *Hopsen's* Choice, she must have him or none.

W'are both mistaken, and shall not perceive,
If we mind well, such Innocence in *Eve* ;
For tho' her Spouse was of such noble Mein,
Of Shape so graceful, and of Limbs so clean,
With Vigour, Eloquence, and Knowledge blest,
And without doubt, not wanting of the rest,
Unless

Unless a Man, fram'd by immortal Skill,
 To stock the World, could bethought furni sh'd ill;
 Yet of the Nuptial Bow'r she weary grew,
 And as she lov'd, still long'd for so mething new;
 And tho' at home she had a Lord so great,
 That even Angels envy'd him his State ;
 Yet, as a Husband, she could leave him there,
 In hopes to meet with other Joys else-where ;
 And once got out of Sight, she prov'd so frail,
 That she would listen to a Serpent's Tale ;
 And rather enter with the Dev'l in Char,
 Than be a Woman and not a Coquet.

F I N I S.





